

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STOCKH 01523 181625Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 IO-13 ACDA-12
L-03 MCE-00 NRC-05 /093 W
-----060600 191559Z /45

R 181322Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3574
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T STOCKHOLM 1523

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MNOL, IN, SW
SUBJECT: INDIAN ACQUISITION OF A DPSA: CONSULTATIONS
WITH THE SOVIETS

REF; NEW DELHI 5882

1. FROM THE STOCKHOLM PERSPECTIVE, WE WISH TO SUPPORT EMBASSY NEW DELHI'S CAUTIONARY NOTE ABOUT DISCUSSING WESTERN AIRCRAFT SALES TO INDIA WITH THE USSR.
2. OUR READING OF THE SOVIET POSITION (ONE WITH WHICH THE SWEDES WOULD CONCUR, WE BELIEVE) IS THAT THE RUSSIANS WILL MAKE A SALE THEMSELVES IF THEY CAN, AND THAT IF THEY CANNOT, DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM WILL DO NOTHING BUT EXPOSE WESTERN POSITIONS AND DIVISIONS. WHILE WE ARE AWARE OF A LONG-STANDING SOVIET INTEREST IN TEMPERING THE INDIAN-PAKISTANI RELATIONSHIP, WE ASSUME THAT THE USSR'S WEEKENED TIES WITH NEW DELHI WILL BE THE PRINCIPAL SOVIET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STOCKH 01523 181625Z

INTEREST IN SOVIET EYES, SO THAT REALISTIC HOPES FOR SOVIET SELF-RESTRAINT IN ARMS SALES WOULD SEEM VERY SLIM IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. UNLESS THE USG WERE CONVINCED IT COULD PERSUADE THE UK AND FRANCE NOT TO MEET THE INDIAN DESIRE FOR A DPSA--AND FROM ALL WE KNOW THIS IS AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK FOR THE USG--WE WOULD SEE LITTLE PROFIT IN TRYING TO CONVINCE THE SOVIETS OF

THE INADVISABILITY OF INDIA'S ACQUIRING A DPSA:
A COMMON US-USSR FRONT AGAINST THE UK AND FRANCE WOULD
SURELY BE AN END NOT TO BE SOUGHT.

3. WE ARE MOST APPRECIATIVE OF THE CONTINUING REGARD
FOR SWEDEN'S POSITION SHOWN BY PM DIRECTOR GELB
(STATE 92067UND PREVIOUS) AND OTHER USG
OFFICIALS. WE ARE HOPING AGAINST HOPE THAT THE
TIMING OF EVENTS (PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE GOI
STATEMENT IN PARA 3 OF REFTEL THAT A DECISION MIGHT
NOT BE MADE UNTIL JUNE) WILL INSURE THAT
SOMEONE ELSE RATHER THAN THE USG SAYS NO TO SWEDEN
(IF NO IT MUST BE). IN THIS CONNECTION, WE DO NOT
BELIEVE THAT THE MORE HARD-HEADED OF OUR SWEDISH
FRIENDS WOULD BE IMPRESSED BY A USG EFFORT TO DRAW
THE USSR INTO THE PICTURE. THEY PICTURE INDIA AS
WANTING TO GET AWAY FROM PAST OVER-DEPENDENCE ON
THE USSR AND DIVERSIFYING SOURCES OF SUPPLY BY
GOING TO WESTERN (AND, AS THE SWEDES HOPE, NEUTRAL)
PRODUCERS; THEREFORE IN THE SWEDISH VIEW SOVIET
PARTICIPATION IN THE DISCUSSION WOULD PROBABLY MERELY
MAKE IT LOOK LIKE GANGING UP ON THE INDIANS. OF
COURSE THE SWEDES ARE VERY STRONG ON ARMS CONTROL
MEASURES IN GENERAL, SO THAT A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF
CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS IN SOUTH ASIA, AS NOTED
BY EMBASSY NEW DELHI, WOULD NO DOUBT BE WELCOME.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STOCKH 01523 181625Z

KENNEDY-MINOTT

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ACQUISITION, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STOCKH01523
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780167-1030
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780443/aaaabkcj.tel
Line Count: 95
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b8a08bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 NEW DELHI 5882
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2926912
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDIAN ACQUISITION OF A DPSS: CONSULTATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS
TAGS: MASS, IN, SW
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b8a08bab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014